THE PULSE

News of the
New England Deaconess Hospital Employees

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MISS ORIANNA F. HARDING

An Award of Merit for long service was presented to Miss Orianna Harding last week by the Board of Hospitals and Homes of The Methodist Church. Miss Harding came to the hospital as a "Deaconess" in 1912 to serve as purchasing agent and dietitian for the employees, nurses, and 50 patients. She took a special training course in dietetics at the Fanny Farmer Cooking School. Miss Harding loved her work as dietitian. In fact, cooking and preparation of food is still one of her favorite pastimes—particularly making salads. For seven years Miss Harding served as dietitian; then she was asked to assume the responsibilities of housekeeper. She spent three years as housekeeper and then was appointed field secretary for the hospital. This work, of course, involved a great deal of travelling which Miss Harding enjoyed very much.

From her father, who was a sea captain and sailed over most of the world in three-masted schooners and brigs, Miss Harding probably inherited her love of travel. As a child, she would look forward to the pretty clothes he always brought her from foreign ports.

Miss Harding grew up in Stockton Springs, Maine, a little town halfway between Bangor and Belfast on the banks of the Penobscot River. Motorboating through the islands of the River and Penobscot Bay and clambakes along the shore are still among her greatest joys. She loves sailing, fishing, and "anything to do with boats." She likes paintings of all kinds, but especially paintings of the sea.

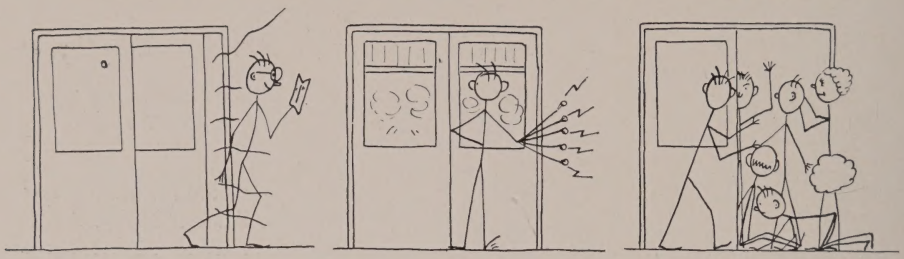
Because Miss Harding planned to teach school, she studied literature and languages at the Eastern Maine Academy. She did teach in Maine for a short time until she realized that her real interest was in missionary work and she decided to come to the Training School for Deaconesses in Boston. Miss Harding's warmth and understanding, her love of people, and her cheerful disposition make this seem a logical decision.

Succeeding years found her working with Methodist Churches in Charlestown, Chelsea, Worcester, and Boston. In Chelsea she was superintendent of the Jewish Industrial School attended by 200 children. Miss Harding loves children and likes to tell how some of the youngest used to crawl under her long flowing cape and hide from her.

This work at the Industrial School provided the background for Miss Harding's next job as superintendent of the Training School for Deaconesses. The Training School occupied the wooden building at 175 Pilgrim Road for 6 years before the Deaconess Hospital was ready to move in. Then the Training School for Deaconesses moved to Harris Hall which was adjoined by a fine estate. Miss Harding was superintendent for ten years, until the School was absorbed by the Boston University School of Education. Harris Hall then became a part of the hospital and was the residence for our School of Nursing.

As one of the receptionists at the Deaconess II Entrance, Miss Harding is now completing her 37th year with the Deaconess Hospital. She has helped in its growth from a house on Massachusetts Avenue to our present three buildings and is now looking forward to our next period of expansion.

HOW TO TAKE THE LIFT OUT OF AN ELEVATOR



Leave Door Open | Push Button Constantly | Everyone Ride Down One Flight

MISS SOFIA T. NASSE

The hospital was shocked to learn of the sudden death of Miss Sofia T. Nasse, Surgical Instructor, on the night of March 10, and extends its sympathy to her family.

HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS
BLOOD BANK
Number Eleven of a Series

The Blood Bank is operated in the manner of a commercial bank—to remain solvent, there must be a balance on hand at all times. Instead of money, the medium of exchange is human blood, and it is the aim of the Blood Bank to offset withdrawals by deposits. Although some patients may prefer to pay the transfusion charges, it is explained to them that the need is not for cash, but human blood—and that money will not always buy that.

For each pint of blood given to a patient, if a deposit of two pints is made, the charge for the blood and giving the transfusion are offset. If only one pint is deposited, then a charge is made only for administering the transfusion. Few hospitals extend this privilege of offsetting the cost of a blood transfusion by the donation of two pints of blood. Last year less than 10 professional donors were called in, whereas other hospitals may depend on several hundred. Enough blood of all types is always on hand to cover emergencies.

The Blood Bank is one of the units under Dr. Shields Warren, Director of Laboratories, with Harold B. Kenton, Ph.D. in charge. It is located away from heavy hospital traffic on the sixth floor of the Palmer Memorial Hospital. It is a department that is growing in size and importance every day. In 1948 a total of 6,887 donors were accepted and 6,551 pints of blood were sent out for transfusions. This represents an increase of almost 25 per cent over the previous year. Because of the tremendous rise in surgical cases and the many valuable new uses the doctors are finding every day for whole blood, it has been necessary to increase the staff from one nurse and one technician in 1942 to four nurses and three technicians.

Donations are made by appointment only at regular clinics held five times a week as follows: Monday and Wed-

nesday, 4:00 to 8:00 P. M.; Friday, 1:00 to 3:00 P. M.; Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon to 4:00 P. M. The Saturday and Sunday clinics are held for donors who live over 50 miles away. Anywhere from 30 to 80 donations may be made at any one clinic. All donors must be between 18 and 60 years of age and those under 21 must bring written permission from a parent or guardian.

Before a donor gives a pint of blood questions are asked about allergies, jaundice, malaria, hay fever, and so forth. Temperature and blood pressure are taken and a test is made as well to determine if the donor is anemic. Al this determines whether or not the donor is eligible to give blood. A few donations are made before a patient has received any blood, but, for the most part, the blood in the bank replaces blood already received by a patient.

A service which is rendered to donors, and which they greatly appreciate, is the issuance of a Donor Card indicating their blood type, any Rh factor, and the fact that their hemoglobin is over 80 per cent. The card is signed by the Head Nurse and the date of donation stamped on the back. These cards are mailed to each donor.

The day following a clinic the blood is grouped and a Hinton test made before the blood can be used in transfusions. No blood is retained after 21 days. If it has not been used at the end of three weeks, it is sent to the State Laboratory and the plasma is drawn off and made into dry plasma to be used at a later date. A few rare bloods may be given to the Red Cross for distribution to extremely needy cases.

The varied activities of the Blood Bank are directed to supplying blood to any patient in need of a transfusion. Obtaining blood from a donor is only a small part of the whole program. All blood must be grouped and the Rh factor determined. After this test is completed, each blood the patient receives is checked with the patient's own blood. Still another precaution is taken before the blood is ready to send to the floor or the operating room—it must be filtered to be sure there is no clot or fibrin that could be introduced into the tubing or patient. All blood is stored in a refrigerator until used. Behind the scenes, solutions and supplies are made up, equipment sterilized, and all is kept spotlessly clean. Visitors to the Blood Bank are impressed with its efficiency and volume of work. It is one of the finest in New England, if not in the whole country.

WATCH THIS SPACE!

Will *your* name be listed here as one of those individuals who has plenty of money, and therefore doesn't need to cash paychecks?

In spite of our several requests that paychecks be cashed promptly, there are still over a hundred employees who evidently aren't interested in receiving their pay. (We do have a Volunteer Department for such people.)

Thirty employees have not yet cashed their checks for December or January—and another 86 have not cashed February 15th checks. We do our best to pay promptly; please do your part by cashing your checks—or depositing them in a bank account—before the bank stops payment on them. If in doubt about payday, ask your Department Head.

And if you don't need the money—join the Volunteers!

THE RED CROSS

When catastrophe and disaster occur again, help will be needed at once just as it was needed at the Maine fires, the Pacific Northwest floods, the Florida-Gulf Coast hurricane, and 303 disasters last year. Even though we may be thousands of miles away, we can help through the Red Cross. Our contributions to the Red Cross Fund Campaign can mean assistance to many—possibly life to some.

Red Cross Day at the Deaconess will be next Monday, March 21. You will be asked for a contribution by someone in your department. Remember the day; remember that *You Too Can Help.*

DEACONESS MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

The March financial report shows that the newly formed Mutual Benefit Association has swung into action in a big way. Miss Eva Gifford, treasurer, submits the following statements:

Sick Benefits		$210.00
Flowers		74.25
Expenses		
Membership cards	5.50	
Diamond stamp	.80	6.30
		$290.55
Membership fees deposited		$358.00
Total Expenses		290.55
BALANCE		$67.45

HAVE YOU READ . . .

These new books which are recent additions to the Library on Palmer 6?

Gilbreth and Carey, *Cheaper By the Dozen*

Oursler, *The Greatest Story Ever Told*

Gunther, *Death Be Not Proud*

Jones, *Mahatma Gandhi; an interpretation*

Bowen, *The Heat of the Day*

Weizmann, *Trial and Error*

Lieb, *Connie Mack, Grand Old Man of Baseball*

Norris, *High Holiday*

BOWLING

The scores as of March seventh were as follows:

	Captains	*Points*	*Total Pinfall*
Team 6	Mr. Karman	69	25210
Team 1	Dr. Cook	59	24357
Team 5	Mrs. Walker	57	24466
Team 3	Mr. Sabine	46	23970
Team 8	Mr. Gould	41	23260
Team 9	Miss James	33	22338
Team 4	Mr. Emery	27	22538
Team 7	Miss Carberry	21	22436
Team 10	Miss Marshall	16	21217
Team 2	Miss Brown	11	19147

High Single String

Men—Mr. Gordon (visitor), Team 7	121
Women—Miss Paula Johnson, Team 4	99

High Total Pinfall

Men—George Walker, Team 8	292
Women—Miss Paula Johnson, Team 4	288

FLASH

The hospital has been assured that a traffic light will be installed at the intersection of Brookline Avenue and Deaconess Road as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

BLOOD BANK

Miss Jean M. Malonson joined our staff on March seventh as Technician replacing Bettyjean Gallagher. Miss Gallagher resigned to attend X-Ray school.

Another resignation was that of Miss Frances Hyde who was married on March twelfth.

HOUSEKEEPING

One of our Supervisors, Mrs. Helen Quinn, is taking a fifteen-week course in modern methods of Housekeeping at Boston University.

Mr. and Mrs. George Woodburn have gone to Dallas, Texas, on a month's leave of absence to await the arrival of a grandchild.

MAINTENANCE

We are happy to report that Mr. Sabine came through his recent operation with flying colors, and is convalescing at home.

We extend a hearty welcome to our new carpenter—Albert Baker.

NURSING

Engagements: Iva Langille, Baker 3; Cornelia Harrigan, Night Supervisor; and Jane Marshall, Deaconess 2.

Births: Mrs. Phyllis Giroux, a boy; Mrs. Rosemary Collins, a girl.

Marriages: Priscilla Allen on May 14 and Jean Pike in May.

General Information: Mrs. Dorothy Ogrean is back with us to teach Pharmacology to the pre-clinical students.

Muriel Palmer will be back with us in several weeks. She has been with her very ill father for several months. We extend our sympathy to her on his death in February.

We are glad to hear that Grace Middlemas, a patient on Palmer 4, seems to be feeling better.

Those Borek sisters have been entertaining again! This time the Deaconess 2 bowling team.

Virginia Diggdon is the proud owner of a '49 Plymouth Club Coupe.

SOLUTION ROOM

Miss Elizabeth James and Miss Constance Arey, Baker 4, have returned from a ten-day visit to New Orleans. After pinching pennies for weeks, they were thrilled to speed south by Eastern Airlines. We quote them as they say, "You'll have to see the Mardi Gras to believe it."

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. James G. Davis (Marjorie Dizer) in the birth of a daughter, Paula Winser, on February fourteenth.

SURGERY

We all envied Lois Baird and Bernice Starns when they returned from their vacations well rested and tanned. They spent ten days in Hollywood, Florida, and a few days in New York, Washington, Cleveland, and Cincinnati. The girls spent most of their time swimming while in Hollywood, but it was not until the last day that they discovered that the waters were shark-infested. Both Lois and "Bea" recommend Hollywood as an ideal place to live the year round, except for the sharks.

Many goodbyes are being said these days in the operating rooms. Dr. Joseph Dondanville left us to go to Michigan; Norma Davis is leaving and will work in Worcester; and Dr. and Mrs. Sannan will be leaving too to start a practice in Montana.

Anyone who is interested in horseback riding should contact Miss Florence Brown or Miss Arlene Street in the Deaconess O. R. It makes no difference whether you have ridden or not as there are Beginner and Advanced classes. There are several miles of beautiful bridle trails and indoor and outdoor rings. Transportation is partially arranged and the stables are located in Melrose.

GLAD TO SEE YOU

Our welcome to these full-time employees who joined our ranks in February:

Chemistry
Gloria Askwith
Barbara G. Bennett
Susan Malm
Maintenance
Albert Baker
Dietary
Thomas Durant
Elizabeth Gruetzmacher
Mary McGovern
Ruth Schwaibold
Housekeeping
Stanley Alicki
Julia Howard
Nursing
Lillian Baker
Naomi Curry
Patricia Dunbar
Artemis Kalousdian
Ruthanne Lewis
Marie MacDonald
Clara Pilling
Thelma Portman
Phyllis Stoddard
Barbara Willis
Surgery
Teresa Cameron

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editors
ELLEN ADAMS MARY PARKINS

Associate Editors
BERTA GEORGE CHARLES SCHRAUB

Administration ..... CATHERINE GALVIN
Admitting ..... JOSEPHINE MAGLIOCCA
Blood Bank ..... VIRGINIA HUNT
Chemistry ..... CONSTANCE SELLMAN
Dietary ..... MARJORY LEBEAU
Engineering ..... HERBERT ROBINSON
Hostesses ..... ESTHER PRINCE
Housekeeping ..... JOSEPHINE PRESTON
Laundry ..... RITA DENNEHY
Nursing ..... CLARICE ANDREWS
Pathology ..... KATHRYN HALEY
Pharmacy ..... JOHN KARMAN
Purchasing ..... JOHN KEEFE
Record Rooms ..... KATHERINE SHIRLEY
Social Service ..... EVAN PHILLIPS
Solution Room ..... DOROTHY BLANCHARD
Surgery ..... HARRIET LOVETT
Volunteer Service ..... PAMELA WHITNEY
X-Ray ..... ELEANORE JACOBS